

**Hartford Advisory Commission on the Environment**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**June 23, 2004**

Commissioners Present: Steve Hesse, Rita Kornblum, June Lyons, Mark Mitchell,  
June O'Neil, Robert Pandolfo, Richard Parmelee Sr.

Commissioners Excused: Mary Diaz  
Jeanne Webb Chaves

Commissioners Absent: Eddie Morales

Staff Present: Nancy Noli

Others Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by Dr. Mitchell.

Old Business

There has been no movement on the revisions of the ACOTE ordinance. Robert Pandolfo agreed to follow up with Corporation Counsel.

New Business

ACOTE held a retreat at Hartford Hospital Newington Campus on June 5, 2004 (instead of having a May meeting). At this meeting we set priorities.

The following is a list of ACOTE priorities for 2004:

- CRRA contract with the City of Hartford
- Establishing an Endowment for an Environmental Fund
- Determining how the landfill will be used after it is closed
- Investigate chlorine gas storage at sewage treatment plant
- Investigate the safety of chemicals stored at the train yard on the north side

Rita Kornblum has poll figures from an independent study conducted by questioning Hartford residents. Surveys were collected at an "Earth Day" event. She wanted to know if the survey should be used to set other priorities. Robert Pandolfo proposed the survey data continue to be collected and used for priority setting at a future date. June Lyons said statistics should be combined.

June O'Neil made a motion to include the data from the public and review 400 surveys by December. Rita Kornblum seconded the motion.

Richard Parmalee made a motion to name the first five priorities on the list as our priorities for 2004 and June Lyons seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### Plan of Action for ACOTE Committee

Dr. Mitchell stated that he has suggested committee members and chairs for each of the five priorities for discussion

1. CRRRA Contract – June O'Neil, Richard Parmalee, Mark Mitchell
2. Environmental Land – Eddy Morales, Mark Mitchell
3. Reuse of Landfill – Rita Kornblum, June O'Neil, Richard Parmalee
4. Chlorine gas storage at sewage treatment plant – Steve Hesse
5. Train yard safety and security – June Lyons, June O'Neil
6. Publicity – June Lyons, Mark Mitchell, Jeannie Webb

June O'Neil and June Lyons expressed concern about the contents of the tanks in the rail yard in North Hartford along Windsor Street. June O'Neil's contact said that contents are not identified, but may be hazardous, may be non-hazard, or may be empty. Stickers have a NIOSH code.

Dr. Mitchell is concerned about public exposure to contents. The area should be secured. June O'Neil and June Lyons will continue researching the safety issues. Officials in charge of trains etc. will be invited to a future ACOTE meeting.

Steve Hesse reported on chlorine gas concerns, safety measures and security at the MDC sewage plant. He wanted to send a letter to MDC and wanted to know if we had a procedure to do so. Dr. Mitchell suggested that MDC Executive Director should receive letters from the Chair of Commission; contact persons (in this case, Steve) would be listed in the letter.

Rita Kornblum has drafted letterhead to use for correspondence from commission chairman. A list of commissioners will be added to the left of the page, along with an address and telephone number as soon as we get one.

Nancy Noli will contact Kelvin Roldan regarding protocol for use of city letterhead.

Mark Mitchell and Eddie Morales will meet regarding the environmental fund proposal.

June O'Neil suggested the commission do a STARTECH tour. STARTECH uses plasma arc technology to destroy wastes. The Hartford Environmental Justice Network members have already toured STARTECH in Bristol, and June found it enlightening..

June Lyons suggested we come back to the next meeting with ideas for a press conference and publicity, etc.

Dr. Mitchell distributed greenhouse gas material study.

Dr. Mitchell suggested Bob Moore from MDC to fill the vacancy on the commission. Mr. Moore said he would be interested.

Dr. Mitchell will schedule a landfill tour.

June O'Neil made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

**The next Hartford Advisory Commission on the Environment meeting will be held, July 21, 2004, 5:30 p.m.**